MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 FEBRUARY 1982

Syria

Although Damascus radio rebroadcast its 21 February statement that Hamah was quiet, Monte Carlo radio reported that the Syrian press had admitted that fierce battles were still raging in the city between security forces and the Muslim Brotherhood. AFP likewise noted that TISHRIN spoke of attempts to prolong the "riot" in Hamah. While Amman radio said Damascus radio had admitted that fighting was still continuing in Hamah, monitored reports by Damascus radio made no such admission. Meanwhile, Baghdad's Voice of Arab Syria radio said fierce clashes were continuing in Hamah with the mujahidin remaining in control of most of the city's suburbs for the 21st consecutive day. The radio also reported clashes in Homs Province township of Al-Qaryatayn.

Damascus radio and television gave extensive coverage to cables of support for President Hafiz al-Asad from politicians and clergymen in Hamah. The radio carried the text of a cable from the city's Ba'th Party branch, which said the Muslim Brotherhood's conspiracy in Hamah began in the early hours of 3 February when conspirators fired from mosques and streets at the homes of citizens and anyone they came across on the streets, annihilating entire families, including those who would not open their doors so their houses could be used as rebel hideouts. The rebels pounced on Ba'th Party members while they were still in bed, killing them and their families. The Ba'thists were compelled to defend themselves, the cable went on, and taught the murderers and their sympathizers a lesson that "silenced them forever." The radio broadcast a similar, though less detailed, message from the Hamah Province local administration. Damascus television broadcast a cable signed by two shaykhs on behalf of Hamah clergymen that also condemned the Muslim Brotherhood, accusing the rebels of hiding under the cover of religion and branding them as "apostates, traitors and agents." Deploring their barbaric criminal acts which have "brought woe" to innocent citizens who refused to cooperate with the rebels, the cable said those who kill children, elders, women and the innocent in the name of religion are not Muslims.

Lebanon

Kuwaiti Aid -- KUNA reported that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrived in Kuwait on 23 February for talks with Kuwaiti leaders that will include financial aid to Lebanon. Earlier, another KUNA report noted that the Kuwaiti National Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee rejected a Kuwaiti Government bill allocating $48 million to finance the Syrian Arab Deterrent Force (ADF) in Lebanon because of current events in Syria and the Syrian stance on the Iran-Iraq war.

Security Situation -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio reported that PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met with ADF, Palestinian and Lebanese officials in Tripoli to discuss ways to restore normal life in the city. The radio said the situation in Tripoli improved after joint security forces began patrolling the scenes of recent clashes. According to AFP, the violence left 20 dead and more than 70 wounded. Voice of Lebanon radio said leaflets were distributed in the city calling for jihad against the Syrian regime, which has meanwhile reinforced ADF positions in Tripoli and the Al-Biqa' Valley.

On the situation in south Lebanon, the Voice of Palestine said the IDF has established 175-mm heavy artillery batteries overlooking the coastal city Tyre.

Israel

Begin Remarks -- Jerusalem radio reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin said in an interview with a Columbian television station that Israel will react immediately if an Israeli is killed in a terrorist action. Regarding possible U.S. plans to sell sophisticated weapons to Jordan, Begin said: "It appears that they have kicked us in a place I cannot describe exactly, but it is a long way from the head."

Golan Strike -- According to DAVAR, the Defense Ministry intends to take a tough line toward Druze strikers in the Golan Heights, cutting off electricity and water supplies to the villages within the next few days unless the strike ends at once.

Egypt

'Ali on Foreign Policy -- MENA transmitted the text of Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's statement to the People's Assembly in which he reviewed Egypt's recent foreign policy course. 'Ali said that while welcoming a studied and logical restoration of relations with its Arab sister states, Egypt will not accept the imposition of any conditions or amend its policy to achieve such a restoration of relations. However, he continued, if there is currently a disagreement between Egypt and some Arab states, this is a disagreement that will inevitably disappear so that Egypt will return to its inevitable place in the Arab world without changing its policy on peace. Regarding Egypt's relations with Israel, 'Ali noted that the Egyptian-Israeli joint military committee had begun talks in Cairo the previous day on the demarcation of the future border, which is still subject to dispute. He also informed the assembly that Egyptian technical teams will shortly go to southern Sinai to prepare for the Israeli withdrawal.

Shamir Visit -- MENA reported that Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir arrived in Cairo where he was welcomed by Foreign Minister 'Ali. According to Jerusalem radio, Shamir has drawn up a long list of agreements on normalization affairs that have not yet materialized. Although Shamir is scheduled to meet with President Husni Mubarak on 25 February, the radio said, the meeting may not take place if Mubarak is still ill. Another Jerusalem radio report said Shamir will seek to finalize the date of Mubarak's forthcoming visit to Israel.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech, Activities -- In a speech to top officials broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni indicated that foreign radio reports that he was daying had made him laugh. Khomeyni called on Iranian exiles to give up their struggle against the Islamic republic since they know they cannot make any headway. They should cooperate with the government rather than organize against it, he said. Khomeyni complimented the armed forces on recent successes and emphasized the importance of a speedy implementation of the amnesty for prisoners. He expressed hope that an impressive number of prisoners will be released by the Islamic New Year, which begins on 21 March.

Tehran radio reported that Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who was among the officials who met with Khomeyni, said afterward that Khomeyni issued a decree that solves problems caused by the Council of Guardians' failure to approve a Majlis bill on preventing profiteering and speculation in urban real estate. Asserting that Khomeyni recognized the urgency of the matter and decreed that the guardians should not interfere in it, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the government will regulate property market prices for a 5-year period.

Further on Bomb Blast -- AFP reported that the Pars monarchist group claimed responsibility for the bomb that exploded in a Tehran square early on 22 February. AFP noted that the blast occurred on the anniversary of Reza Shah's accession to the throne in 1920. Meanwhile, IRNA said the number of deaths from the explosion had risen to 15, including 3 revolution guards.

Libya

In a commentary on the world oil glut, which it said was brought about by the policies of successive U.S. administrations, JANA called for a summit of oil producers to deal with the problem and urged Saudi Arabia to reduce production to 4 million barrels per day.

PLO

The Voice of Palestine reported that Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf in a speech at an As-Sa'iqah bureau criticized the "Arabs of America" for maintaining friendly relations with the United States. Earlier, in an interview with MONDAY MORNING, Khalaf described Saudi Arabia's decision to form a joint military committee with the United States as a big mistake.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL ATTACKS 'FACTIONALISM, OBSTRUCTIONISM'

LD221014 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1730 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and of the Kabul city party organization -- recorded]

[Excerpt] Comrades: I would like to raise the issue of strengthening party ranks and party unity. The convening of the Kabul city party conference marks the end of the process of evaluation of the results of the PDPA Seventh Plenum and the election of the delegates for the PDPA Seventh Plenum and the election of the delegates for the PDPA national conference.

The general sessions of primary organizations, and the party conference of ward, district, city and province organizations, were not only hundreds of great events in the life of our party but were also regarded as a school for the real training of party members and cadres, because this was the first time that elections, formidable organizational work and readiness of the [word indistinct] have taken place in the history of the party.

The PDPA Central Committee will fully scrutinize, study, evaluate and disseminate the results of the formidable political campaign [words indistinct]. However, we can explain some of the evaluations right now:

1. The work of the sessions and elections of delegates in the overwhelming majority of party organizations took place in accordance with the instructions of the party Central Committee to a high standard, displaying organizational unity, [word indistinct] and the active role of the members. This shows that unity of our party is being strengthened and that the political maturity of the probationary and permanent members of the party is being enhanced and its members are supporting and confirming the activities of their Central Committee.

2. Despite the present difficult conditions, we have embarked on broadening and enhancing democracy inside the party. The correctness and rectitude of this party decision are also being proved as the election proceedings revealed the positive and negative, powerful and weak phases of our activities.

3. The election sessions explicitly revealed that some weaknesses, defects and shortcomings exist in the [word indistinct] work of probationary and permanent members of the party. Among some members -- fortunately they are fewer now -- the earlier defects of factionalism and obstructionism have been noted.

The improper actions of these individuals in general constituted an attempt to create disagreement and an atmosphere of tension and doubt at meetings and they strove to express their personal opinion against the majority votes. Some of these individuals have even advanced to the limit of antiparty activities by illegitimate actions such as blackmailing and exerting pressure on comrades. Such actions must not be overlooked in the consideration and investigations of committees, that is to say, party control and supervision committees.

What can we say about these individuals? Irrespective of their motives and objectives their actions wittingly or unwittingly inflict material damage to the party's interests.

It is the crucial duty of party committees to endeavor further to eliminate shortcomings, strengthen control, discipline and party unity, enhance the level of readiness, political and ideological maturity of the probationary and permanent members and strengthen [word indistinct] work.

Of course, the party is determined to purge itself of those who do not observe party interests, who act against its policy, who do not observe party discipline and regulations, who do not want to correct their mistakes and who evade responsibility for past mistakes. [applause]

We must state explicitly that despite severe storms we will take the boat of the new Afghanistan to its destination [words indistinct]. [applause]

The issue of party membership cards will play an important role in strengthening of the party ranks and organization of the PDPA which have been commenced in the Kabul city party organizations and will be completed by the end of the coming year.

AFP: SOVIET-AFGHAN TROOPS SEAL QANDAHAR BORDER

BK230938 Hong Kong AFP in English 0928 GMT 23 Feb 82

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Chaman, Pakistani-Afghan border, 23 Feb (AFP) -- Soviet-Afghan troops have successfully sealed the Qandahar border, preventing Moslem insurgents from evacuating their wounded to Pakistan and cutting off supply routes.

A leader of the Islamic National Liberation Front of Afghanistan said in this border town that the mujahidin had sufficient ammunition for only three days' intensive combat.

Local inhabitants said that the last attempt to run the border by a group of 46 men from various resistance groups ended with 26 dead and 15 taken prisoners after Afghan troops disguised as civilians laid an ambush across the track. Only three made it across the border without injury.

The main road from Qandahar is completely sealed, and yesterday evening Chaman camel drivers who normally run supplies over the mountain track inaccessible to vehicles were refusing to take the risk.

For over a year Qandahar, the second largest town in Afghanistan, had been more or less under the control of the Mujahidin. But after an intense shelling campaign in January, in which several hundred civilians are reported to have perished, Soviet-Afghan troops have cracked down on the region.

Tanks and helicopter gunships, which until recently risked patrolling the Qandahar hills only by day, this week kept a round-the-clock watch on the passes.

Resistance groups report that the army is now freely patrolling Qandahar itself, and has set up around 20 military checkpoints.

The insurgents said that bombardment had resumed, but with fire now concentrated on villages around Qandahar where some 2,000 mujahidin have virtually gone underground.

Representatives of the International Red Cross in Pakistan have asked Afghan authorities to permit the evacuation to Pakistan of injured insurgents trapped without medical treatment around Qandahar, a well-informed source said just along the border in Quetta.

Tracks into Pakistan remain open along other sections of the border, but the successful cutting off of Qandahar sews the end for now of the insurgents' first successful disruption of the Soviet policy of retaining a firm grip on major towns and highways while virtually abandoning the countryside to the mujahidin.

SOUTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE OPENS IN NEW DELHI

Tanzanian President Arrives

BK210821 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere was given a ceremonial welcome when he arrived at the Palam Airport a short while ago. Those who received the visiting dignitary included President Sanjiva Reddy, Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi, her Cabinet colleagues and members of the diplomatic corps.

President Nyerere and Madam Maria Nyerere, who are on a 5-day visit to India, had arrived in Bombay early this morning. Foreign Minister of Tanzania Salim Ahmad Salim, who is also a member of the delegation, will come later in the evening.

President Nyerere will represent his country in the South-South dialogue starting in New Delhi tomorrow. He will also receive the Third World Foundation Award for 1981.

Banquet for Nyerere

BK220342 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere has deplored the attitude of the rich nations toward the developing world. He criticized them for their attempts to grab the wealth belonging to the entire mankind. Nyerere was replying to the toast at a banquet given in his honor by President Sanjiva Reddy in New Delhi last night. He warned the Third World countries against relying on the good will of the developed nations for resources to relieve the poverty of their people. He said such a dependence can be politically dangerous.

Welcoming the Tanzanian president, Reddy expressed India's concern at the military buildup in the Indian Ocean despite opposition from the states bordering the ocean. He said far from becoming a zone of peace, the Indian Ocean is now bristling with lethal weapons. India and Tanzania, which have always cooperated in reducing tensions and in promoting peace in the region, need to intensify in their efforts in the present uneasy international environment.

Referring to the racist policies followed in South Africa, Reddy said a good deal still remains to be done for the liberation of the people suffering under racist suppression. Pointing out that India has all along opposed the negation of human values, Reddy said we are proud of extending support to our friends in Africa and their battle against oppression and injustice. Speaking on Indian-Tanzanian relations, Reddy pointed out that there is a close identify of views between the two countries on international issues.

Ramphal, Gandhi Meeting

BK211253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Commonwealth Secretary General S.S. Ramphal today called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and discussed with her the subjects likely to come up at the South-South conference beginning in New Delhi tomorrow. Ramphal's meeting with Mrs Gandhi lasted 45 minutes. They are understood to have briefly discussed matters relating to the Commonwealth also.

Ramphal, who arrived in the capital today on an 11-day visit, will attend the 44-nation 3-day conference.

Delegations Hold Consultations

BK211619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Heads of delegations of several countries now in New Delhi for tomorrow's conference on global negotiations had preliminary consultations with the host country, India. The delegation heads had separate meetings with G. Parthsarathi, the chairman of the conference, and some delegation members met Ramesh Bhandari, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry.

Tanzanian President Nyerere will represent his country in the South-South dialogue. Among the invitees, China, Cuba, Argentina, Nigeria and Korea have deputed their ministers, while Pakistan will be represented by its ambassador to the United Nations. Several other delegations will be represented by their directors general of foreign affairs. The foreign secretary of Bangladesh and Sri Lankan ambassador in Brussels are leading the delegations of their countries.

Most of the invitees have reached New Delhi. Others are expected later tonight.

Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi will inaugurate the 3-day conference at Vigyan Bhavan. The inauguration of the conference will be telecast live by Delhi television.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry has said that the conference will pave the way for a fruitful dialogue at the next month's North-South conference being convened by the United Nations. The New Delhi conference will also be able to reach an agreed approach on issues like food, energy, finance and for launching the round of global negotiations. The concept of economic cooperation among development countries, evolved after 2 decades of consultations among Third World nations, is considered to be the basic component of the developing countries in their efforts for a new international economic order. The developing countries of late have become increasingly conscious of the need and advantage of bringing about closer economic cooperation among themselves in order to build up collective self-reliance and present a united front at next month's North-South dialogue.

The conference is also expected to discuss opportunities and prospectives for South-South cooperation.

Gandhi Inaugurates Conference

BK220851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Delegates from 44 developing countries began their consultations in New Delhi this morning with a call by Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi for the immediate launching for global negotiations. She outlined nine major points for their consideration to make international cooperation more efficacious.

Delegates from Asia, Africa and Latin America are attending the 3-day meeting. China is a special invitee. The visiting president of Tanzania, Nyerere, was seated on the dias during the inaugural ceremony.

Mrs Gandhi called upon the developing countries to promote self-reliance among themselves so that they can effectively resist pressures from affluent nations. Besides immediate global negotiations, the program proposed by Mrs Gandhi envisages increased food production in developing countries, greater flow of concessional assistance, strengthening multilateral cooperation, development of energy resources in Third World countries, lightening the financial burden of increased oil prices on them and reversal of protectionist trends.

Mrs Gandhi expressed deep concern at the visible deterioration in the global economic events in the 4-months period since the Cancun summit.

Gandhi Speech

BK221049 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0907 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Following is the text of the speech of the prime minister at the inauguration of the New Delhi consultations:

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the government and people of India and on my own behalf, I welcome the distinguished delegates from 44 developing countries to these consultations.

Later this evening we are honouring President Nyerere of Tanzania with the presentation of the Third World award. We are especially glad to have him with us on this occasion. He is one of us -- a farseeing statesman who has been articulate and firm in espousing our cause. We welcome also the presence of Ambassador Bedjaoui of Algeria, chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, and of Mr Jean Ripert, director general for development and international economic cooperation who is representing the secretary general of the United Nations. We thank them and all of you for joining us.

Of major importance in restructuring the world economy are the efforts of developing countries to forge collective self-reliance. Arusha was a landmark where President Nyerere's contribution was significant. There 3 years ago was drawn up a programme for the collective self-reliance of developing countries and a framework for their negotiations with the developed countries. The Arusha spirit has not lost its validity. Cooperation among ourselves is an essential part of and an instrument for the building of a new international economic order based on justice and equality.

This is inescapable for the world to sustain high and stable growth rates of income, output, employment and trade and also to ensure equitable distribution of the benefits of accelerated growth.

We have traveled a long way from Arusha to Caracas, where we were able to agree on a machinery for coordination, monitoring, followup and evaluation for the effective implementation of our programme of cooperation. Greater efforts have to be made to concretise programmes. Existing machinery must be strengthened and new and innovative mechanisms devised.

The very nature of the problems of the world economy demands cooperation between the North and the South. Economic cooperation among developing countries cannot possibly relieve the industrialised countries of their responsibilities and commitment towards developing countries.

We are all deeply concerned at the visible deterioration in the global economy even in the short period of 4 months since the Cancun summit. Unchecked, this disturbing trend can have disastrous consequences for humankind. One has only to imagine the effects of prolonged and mounting unemployment, inflation and interest rates. Major developed countries continue to raise walls of protectionism. Concessional assistance is fast diminishing. Even well-established institutions like the IDA are in deep trouble. Developing countries, trying desperately to increase their export earnings, are the principal victims. They are the ones who suffer the most from the decisions of the few who dominate the world.

This is the background for our deliberations on certain basic issues. We cannot remain silent spectators and must jointly exert ourselves to arrest this decline. We have a common obligation to assess what contribution is possible to resolve issues of immediate importance as well as those of medium- and long-term relevance. This was the reason for my initiative in holding these consultations. I should like you all, distinguished delegates, to convey my appreciation to your respective heads of states and governments for their sympathetic response.

Given the will for cooperation, there is no dearth of opportunities for organising and broadening interdependence on the basis of mutual interests and benefits. Progress in the developing countries will help to rejuvenate the stagnating economies of industrialised countries. In turn, improvement in the economies of the industrialised world offers better prospects for our own development. Interdependence is the rationale of the dialogue and cooperation between North and South.

It is unfortunate that we lose this perspective and get bogged down in formulations and debates over procedural matters. In spite of differing perceptions of existing international institutions, a consensus was reached in Cancun on the desirability of launching global negotiations. My suggestion there to act with a sense of urgency was accepted unanimously. The timing and content of global negotiations are crucial. They should, of necessity, be wideranging and cover all major areas.

Subsequent developments are disappointing. But let us not despair. There is resistance in some quarters, but hopeful elements in others. As policymakers in your governments, I am sure you will recognise the importance of focussing on points of substance. Our action, or absence of it, today will influence the course of international economic cooperation tomorrow.

The critical problems which confront developing countries brook no delay. They have been identified and possible solutions have been discussed. This meeting can therefore straightway look into urgent measures for food security, financial flows and energy.

A broad international consensus on the strategy to increase food production in developing countries has recently been reflected in the decisions of several international forums. Addressing the food and agricultural organisation last November, I urged immediate and purposeful action by each one of us in this vital area. Requisite exportable surpluses must be generated in food-exporting developing countries to meet the demand of the food deficient ones through joint ventures which use the surplus capital and technical knowhow of developing countries.

A determined effort has also to be made to help oil-importing developing countries to explore and exploit their own energy resources as well as through regional cooperation for energy. Programmes, particularly for the short term, encompassing all developing countries in various geographic regions, have to be worked out and additional resources found to help them tide over the energy crisis. The World Bank seems merely to be reallocating limited resources among various sectors, when what it should be doing is to expand its energy lending through additional funds.

The climate for developmental aid has worsened sharply, accentuating the problems of many oil-importing developing countries. This drift is dangerous. It implies unacceptably low rates of growth and jeopardises their capability to finance their energy and food development programmes. This can only deepen the global economic crisis.

We urge all countries to adhere to the basic rationale of the IDA. Any one country's action disregarding this well considered pattern should not become an excuse for others to follow regressive policies. The severe debt problems of developing countries are aggravated by high interest rates and call for immediate and sympathetic consideration.

These developments run counter to the consensus arrived at in the international development strategy for the third United Nations development decade for the progressive liberalisation of the operations of international financing and trading and trading institutions. Such trends must be resisted. In fact, all those who believe in the philosophy of development cooperation must redouble their efforts and contribute according to their capacities.

Multilateral institutions like the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have played an important role. When developing countries already have a low growth rate and are compelled to make structural adjustments in order to overcome balance of payments problems, they need flexible responses from the IMF. The usual short-term stabilisation programmes will not suffice in this new situation. The sooner we abandon outmoded and irrelevant concepts and prepare for a vastly expanded programme of assistance, the better it will be for the adjustment process, which otherwise would cripple many economies.

Many developing countries have made tremendous sacrifices to struggle up to their present levels of development. External resources have helped in this but a great deal has been achieved through the mobilisation of domestic resources. When the economies of developing countries are being subjected to such strong pressures, assistance from developed countries is vital to maintain the pace of development. I sincerely hope that the commitments undertaken by the international community at the United Nations conference on least-developed countries, will be fully implemented. Reinforcing existing multilateral financial institutions is essential. But what do we see? The movement is in the opposite direction. We seem to be retreating to the era when development assistance was one of the instruments for furthering narrow national interests. It would be tragic and wasteful if the larger perspective of international cooperation is replaced by ideas which have previously proved unsuitable.

The resolution of policy guidelines to reinforce collective self-reliance among developing countries which was adopted by the nonaligned summit in Havana was a significant state in the process of economic cooperation among developing countries [ECDC]. It set in motion a chain of decisions and activities. The most notable were those according priority to supplies of essential raw materials and food by developing countries which are surplus to those that are deficient and the working out of arrangements regarding a global system of trade preferences among developing countries and preferential treatment in regard to the flow of technology among developing countries. Many of us have taken the steps necessary to implement these guidelines.

Speaking for India, I might mention that wherever possible, we have shared our surplus food resources with other developing countries. We have augumented our scientific and technological cooperation with other developing countries and have a preferential investment policy for investments from capital surplus developing countries. But we find that 2 and 1/2 years later and 9 months after the adoption of the comprehensive Caracas programme of action, the implementation of some of these recommendations is wholly inadequate.

Technical cooperation amongst developing countries should be an essential component of economic cooperation among developing countries. Capital surplus countries must be persuaded to assist those especially in need and recipient countries in turn ensure favourable treatment to investments from developing countries which have surplus capital.

We should all evolve modalities for optional benefit and examine how bilateral action could be usefully supplemented by subregional, regional and interregional arrangements. These require detailed preparations, consultations and negotiations.

To make our cooperation more meaningful and oriented to results, mechanisms to finance ECDC programmes and to provide greater technical support must be expedited. The various chapters of the Group of 77 in key capitals will probably need much more support to fulfill their tasks satisfactorily.

Specific projects of cooperation, as indicated in the Caracas programme of action, can be formulated through closer and more frequent contacts. Indeed, we have no alternative but to turn such economic cooperation into a vast movement involving governments as also peoples of the developing countries especially leaders of business, commerce, industry as well as scientists, intellectuals, writers and journalists.

Together, developing countries command vast markets. They have a large reservoir of human resources, technical skills and manufacturing capacities and now some of them even have substantial financial resources to reduce their dependence on external aid which certain groups [words indistinct] countries regard as charity.

Distinguished delegates, your agenda is heavy and deals with issues concerning the functioning, indeed the survival, of a viable system of global economic cooperation. Once again I should like to underline some points for consideration to make international cooperation more efficacious:

A) Agreement on the immediate launching of global negotiations.

B) Increased food production in developing countries.

C) Reversal of the present disturbing trend in the flow of assistance, particularly concessional assistance, from developed to developing countries.

D) Strengthening multilateral cooperation.

E) Devising mechanisms to finance the development of energy resources in developing countries.

F) Speedy adoption and implementation of schemes, including regional arrangements to lighten the financial burden of increased oil prices and to ensure supplies of oil to developing countries.

G) Provision of financial support for balance of payments problems in the transitional stage of oil-importing developing countries.

H) Reversing protectionist trends. And, above all,

K) [as received] Development of the solidarity and collective self-reliance of developing countries to reduce their vulnerability to pressures from and events in affluent countries.

I have pleasure in inaugurating the New Delhi consultations. The conference belongs to you. My good wishes to you all for your deliberations.

KHOMEYNI RECEIVES, ADDRESSES LEADERS 22 FEB

LD221156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] This morning Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, received President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi.

At the meeting, which was also attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni, a number of issues and the latest developments in the country were discussed and the officials gave a briefing to Imam Khomeyni.

Speech on Amnesty, Rumors

LD221248 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1120 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni at meeting with president, prime minister, Supreme Court president and Majlis speaker in Tehran on 22 February -- recorded, duration 5 minutes]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Today I wish to stress the question of prisoners, admittedly with the exception of those who cannot be released, as decreed by God; I wish to emphasize and request an end to this question, with Mr Musavi instructing all provinces to attend to this matter as soon as possible, so that the issue is investigated speedily. God willing, we hope to have an impressive number of these prisoners released by the new year [beginning 21 March 1982]. This applies to all those prisoners who could be given amnesty. They should attend to this and see for themselves whether they can be given amnesty. They should prepare a list and submit it to us by the new year, so that they can be released.

Meanwhile, I wish to advise the members of these groups, those who have been misled, to make a comparison between the present and former regimes; to make a comparison between the people's situation now and how it was then and see for themselves the services rendered by this government, despite the short time available to it and the extraordinary difficulties created for it by all other countries and almost all the superpowers. They should make a comparison and then see for themselves what course they want to choose, what they want to do by having adopted their own course. What do they aim to achieve, these hypocrites and their brothers, by having adopted this course?

I pray to Almighty God to guide these young people, these young girls and boys, to guide them to avoid the trap set for them.

I must also compliment the army, the Guards Corps, the gendarmerie and other people's armed forces for, thank God, they are advancing quite forcefully. During the past few days they have accomplished some achievements and are making more progress, God willing. I hope that we reach [words indistinct]. Now is the time for Iraq and Iran as well as other Islamic countries to enjoy welfare, with all [words indistinct] to continue their life in peace and in the absence of influence and domination of the mighty.

Concerning a point noted during the past few days, something which some people have raised: A couple of days ago, when I was listening to the radio, I heard that a foreign radio had reported that Khomeyni was dying. This reminded me of a story. There was this man, trying to boast about his strength, who claimed he had done this or that and that he had killed some powerful person. He was told by another man present that the man you claim to have killed is listening to your claim. This reminded me of the man who was supposed to be dying but was listening to them and laughing at them.

These people who are living abroad, whose number is very small, should really give up. They know they cannot make any headway; they know they cannot confront this nation. They claim that the nation is with them. Then come over and cooperate with it, cooperate with the government, rather than sitting by, forming groups, with everyone insulting each other.

I pray to Almighty God for the health of all the gentlemen, the nation and these wounded. I am also grateful to the nation for, thank God, being alert. As long as the nation is alert, this country will not be harmed. God bless you all.

Rafsanjani on Meeting

LD221222 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Islamic Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke with our correspondent following his meeting this morning with the imam of the nation and said that a bill concerning city property, which was ratified by the Islamic Majlis some time ago and which was referred to the Council of Guardians, has encounted an obstacle which needed to be discussed and resolved in the presence of the imam; it was resolved during a long meeting. He added that our problem was to work out the issue without resorting to the imposition of the velayat-e faqih [rule of theocracy -- reference to Khomeyni]. [Words indistinct] experts and the imam, in reply to my letter and on the basis of what is right, had recognized the need for preventing property inside cities from becoming a means of profiteering and speculation by private persons and the private sector for 5 years. This was ratified, with one major condition that the government be represented in each transaction, that it should act as purchaser from property owners and as vendor to those who wanted to buy.

The Council of Guardians had a problem with that and would not approve the bill.

What we insisted on was that, economically speaking, it was not just a question of land and housing, and that steps should be taken to prevent property from becoming a commodity and to stop speculation, for at least 4 or 5 years, even in small towns.

Today we were received by the imam to find out whether recognizing the urgency of this bill is one of the responsibilities of the Majlis or the Council of Guardians and whether there is nothing else under discussion other than the recognition of the urgency of this bill. The imam said that recognizing the urgency is one of the Majlis' responsibilities subject to the approval of the Council of Experts and that the Council of Guardians should not interfere in this respect at all.

I think the imam's decree solved all our problems. The basic assumption should be that in the general economic planning of our country at present a system allowing free dealings in property inside cities is harmful for our economy at present and, as an urgent measure, the government will become an intermediary between supply and demand in the property market for 5 years. The government will thus be able to regulate the price and adopt the right position in these deals. With the imam's confirmation I think our problem is solved.

ARDABILI ORDERS COURTS TO SPEED UP PROCEEDINGS

LD221912 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Mr Musavi-Ardabili, the president of the Supreme Court of the country, issued the following instruction to the revolution prosecutors' offices, to military tribunals and to general and special courts:

In His exalted name. In order to speed up the investigation of files and prisoners by the revolution prosecutors' offices, so as to implement the order of His Great Eminence Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, we emphatically announce that revolution courts and prosecutors' offices should carefully and speedily deal with all the files which are under investigation, files of prisoners who are being detained and whose files have not been fully investigated, and should send the reports to the revolution organizations. The clerks of the revolution courts are dutybound to take necessary steps to complete the files in accordance with the views of the judicial authorities [as heard]. If, at the end of the deadline set by his great eminence the imam on 11 February, there are any prisoners in jail without a relevant detention order and if there are prisoners whose cases have not been clarified, officials will be held responsible.

TABRIZI INTERVIEWED ON AMNESTY, OPPOSITION

LD201938 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1620 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Revolution Prosecutor General Musavi-Tabrizi this morning took part in a radio-television and press conference and replied to questions by domestic and foreign correspondents.

Commenting on the number of people who have been executed, the revolution prosecutor general said: I must declare that there is no comparison between those assassinated and those executed, for those executed are definitely fewer. He added that to prevent terrorism there are two steps which can be taken: first, the execution of the principal elements; and, second, rehabilitation of the misguided. I declare here that we only execute those whose existence is detrimental to the society -- those who must be executed in accordance with religious tenets.

Referring to the number of prisoners, he said that almost 90 percent of prisoners have been rehabilitated or are in the process of being rehabilitated. He continued, saying that Red Cross representatives may visit prisons. Measures have already been taken in this regard. He then added that our brothers in various committees and the Revolution Guards Corps cannot enter people's homes unless injunctions have been issued by the office of the public prosecutor. Commenting on the detection of safe houses and the arrest of leaders of minigroups, the prosecutor general said that information made available by the people is one of the greatest gifts we are blessed with. We are grateful to the martyr-nurturing nation.

Alluding to a special court set up to deal with guildsmen, Tabrizi said that this court is operating under the supervision of the revolution public prosecutor of the Central Province. We hope that this court will continue to repeat its past success in combating profiteering.

He also said that, following repeated visits to various prisons, it ought to be stated that the condition of prisoners as well as their facilities is very good. As for visits in Tehran these take place once a month and, in the provinces, once or twice weekly. The revolution prosecutor general then took part in an exclusive interview with a Central News Unit correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Musavi-Tabrizi, following a recent decision made by the Supreme Judicial Council with regard to amnesty, would you please comment on your plans?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The plans adopted by the office of the prosecutor general are identical to those drafted by the Supreme Judicial Council. Recently, after the imam issued instructions, Supreme Court President Musavi-Ardabili called together some of our brothers working on the amnesty commission and in the office of prosecutor general. He also invited a few officials from the Ministry of Justice.

Subsequently, they sat down, discussed some relevant issues and proposed certain conditions with regard to granting amnesty to various minigroups and others. They formulated conditions, intending to raise them in the presence of the imam to be transmitted to the provinces after their approval.

A series of debates and discussions have already taken place and a number of issues have already been agreed upon. Decisions already reached will be made available to the provinces through circulars, God willing.

Some lists have already been prepared by judicial authorities and religious judges and these will have to be adjusted to conform to the conditions. They are required to send all prisoners to the Supreme Court [as heard]. Then, the names of those who are covered by the amnesty, according to the circulars, will be forwarded to the Supreme Court.

Once these names are collected and approved by the imam, the provinces will be notified so that the prisoners can be released. We hope that this can be achieved before the new year [beginning 21 March].

[Question] How many prisoners do you think will be released?

[Answer] I think a good percentage of them would be freed. I cannot cite a definite figure, but I believe around 2,000 to 3,000 prisoners will be released throughout the country by the new year, God willing.

[Question] What is your interpretation of the future of various groups and organizations? What is the office of public prosecutor's reaction to them?

[Answer] I believe the old adage "a leopard cannot change its spots" applies to these people. They have failed to find any other way but terrorism, for they have no logic. They have chosen terrorism because they have no logic. If they can they will continue their acts of terrorism. This is the imam's policy, and they know it. As for our policy, that too is clear. All acts of terrorism and rebellion must be stopped. All armed activities must definitely stop [words indistinct].

Islamic judgments will be applied to the utmost against those who intend to threaten society's security or who plan to carry out acts of terrorism. However, I believe that these people have lost their popular support, so they cannot protect themselves. They are rotten to the core, so that they cannot even protect themselves for a day [words indistinct]. When one speaks to them, they claim that the original motivation encouraging them to cooperate with them turned out to be false and lies. [Words indistinct] they cannot even save themselves.

Take, for instance, some of the active members of this guerrilla organization, someone like Musa Khiabani. He had lost so much confidence that he was carrying some cyanide tablets so that he would not be captured by the authorities. Well, the organization may claim that it was a sign of his strength. Certainly not; this shows his utter weakness. He knew that he could not control himself; otherwise, if there was once chance in a hundred that he could escape, then he would not commit suicide. This, I believe, is the best sign of their weakness. They provide each child or each individual with some cyanide tablets, so that they can commit suicide. Nowadays, committing suicide by taking these tablets is quite common among them.

I say to parents and these misguided individuals that they can still return to the bosom of Islam. Return to us before it is too late and save yourselves.

I hope that, in view of the actions being taken by our people, members of the Revolutionary Guards Corps and all the revolutionary institutions, to deny them any foothold, we shall no longer have a problem called terrorism in our society. [end recording]

PROSECUTOR DETAILS CAMPAIGN AGAINST 'HYPOCRITES'

GF191121 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 7 Feb 82 p 10

[Interview granted by Central Islamic Revolution Prosecutor Asadollah Lajvardi -- date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] How effective has the 36-million-strong intelligence organization been in discovering members of the minigroups?

[Answer] Fortunately, up to several months ago all our information came from the people. We received reports from the people and then arrested the accused. However, 2 or 3 months ago, when the hypocrites organization and other minigroups realized that the people had recognized them and were informing the authorities about them, they changed their locations. Since then, the information supplied by the 36-million-strong intelligence organization has been reduced somewhat. The reason is that they are not recognized in their new locations. However, fortunately, we gained sufficient ground to arrest other accused [on the basis of information from] the accused, of whom the people had informed us and whom we had already arrested.

I can tell you that right now 95-98 percent of those newly arrested were arrested in connection with confessions and information from the accused presently in our hands.

[Question] What is the source of financial support of the minigroups, especially the hypocrites? The speaker of the Majlis said recently that there has been information concerning Saddam's regime aiding the hypocrites. Have you any information about this?

[Answer] We have arrested someone who was in contact with Afghanistan. For security reasons I should not reveal any more on the matter right now. However, this pointed directly to relations with a foreign country. When, God willing, our investigation is completed, and if it is not harmful, we shall reveal the facts. We have found the start of the thread.

The financial capabilities of the hypocrites organization have posed questions for us, such as: Where does it come from? How are they supported? The really heavy financial burden of the organization -- all of these pose questions. In some of the safe houses a great deal of cash has been found, but the source is not identified. One of the sources of financial nourishment for the hypocrites organization is the capitalists. We have come across many cases in which very wealthy capitalists have given them financial support and some of them have even been members of the organization.

Even though the hypocrites organization chants anticapitalist and anti-imperialist slogans, we see that those who enjoy great wealth have undertaken to be the enemies of the Islamic Republic since the Islamic Republic has chosen to oppose them. They have placed their wealth at the disposal of the organization and have even become members of it. They want no restrictions. Since the regime of the Islamic Republic is opposing them, they have decided to cooperate with the enemies of the Islamic Republic because the enemies are armed. The hypocrites organization is the leading group.

That is why we even see them accepting membership in the hypocrites organization. Therefore, some of their best financial sources are the domestic capitalists. They also receive aid from enemies of the Islamic Republic abroad who realize that their best opportunity in combating the Islamic Republic is through their support of the hypocrites organization.

[Question] The counterrevolutionary activities of the minigroups have dwindled considerably in recent months. In your opinion, what caused this and also can you tell us about the present situation of the minigroups and measures to combat them in the future?

[Answer] The reason for this is completely clear. We quickly took care of them and denied them opportunity to act. As you know, the higher echelons of these organizations live in luxury and do not involve themselves in operations. They, unfortunately, send children and their simpleminded sympathizers to the scene of the operations.

You saw that in all the assassinations, murders, destruction, arson and blows against the people not one of their members participated. We have not yet found one member who participated in such an operation. They were all sympathizers and supporters, those who have been reading newspapers. When, as they say, they change from the political phase into the military phase, it is the same supporters who take up arms. They place guns, grenades, Molotov cocktails, knives, chains and brass knuckles, salt and pepper, air syringes, poison injections and other such things in the hands of the sympathizers and they go and kill people. The members themselves stay hidden and only issue their orders from the top.

Therefore, with our success over these sympathizers, we have picked up almost all of them. A useless number of supporters and sympathizers are left. It was through these supporters and sympathizers that we reached the cadre.

With God's help, we are going to pick up the members and the cadre. We have had success in doing so, and we have managed to put this Godless and inhuman organization out of operation. With God's help, they are no longer able to operate. You know that they once said that they would change unity week to the Islamic Republic's death week. They mobilized all their forces, but all they were able to do was martyr one or two of our defenseless Hezbollahi brothers.

God willing, they are no longer able to operate. The people carrying out these sporadic operations are like the knife-wielding criminals of the past, except that today they have handguns instead of knives. They can kill a Hezbollahi or a guard who is on his way home, but what do they hope to accomplish? How do they want to resolve their problems? With God's help, they have no power left, and their efforts will not take them anywhere.

You can see that Peykaris, hypocrites and the minorities have been greatly reduced in strength. The nation will see no change in the prosecutor's policy until we have picked up the last member. We will struggle against them until they have drawn their last breath. We will not stop until we have crushed all of them.

[Question] What are your views on the imperialist and Zionist radios' propaganda assailing the decisions of the prosecutor and supporting the terrorist minigroups?

[Answer] We have arrested 4,000-5,000 of these hypocrites. The world is aware that 1 percent of Iran's 40 million people are our opponents. Some members of this 1 percent have escalated their opposition to armed struggle. Their total strength is about 7,000 to 10,000 people. These people had facilities provided for them by the previous regime -- obviously on the orders of its master, the United States -- and when the garrisons' doors were opened all the weapons fell into the peoples' hands. The Islamic Republic asked people to return the weapons, and loyal citizens did so. Those who did not return the weapons have been betraying the people. The enemies of the Islamic Republic are also supplying them with weapons. It is natural that these forces should be opposed to Islam, and since they are receiving free weapons they do put up some resistance. Fortunately, our guards, committees and members of the prosecutor's office -- with the full support of the people -- have managed to crush them. They have no chance of succeeding. They should know that they cannot struggle against the people, because they will be destroyed -- even if they are supported by our foreign enemies.

Let the Voice of America support them. This is an honor for the Islamic Republic. Let Radio Israel support them and laud their voice. The support they are receiving from the Voice of America, Radio Israel, the BBC, the Voice of Baghdad and other foreign radios demonstrates that we are right. The atheist governments are fighting against us because we are right. If we were like the shah, the forces led by the United States would support us.

[Question] How many leaders of the hypocrites organization have been arrested, and what are their names?

[Answer] We have arrested a large number of their cadre and members. We recently arrested a few, but I cannot reveal their names. We have been very successful in arresting their cadres and we have arrested few leaders of their branches. God willing, we hope that our Hezbollahi forces will be able to arrest those fugitive leaders outside of Iran.

MAHDAVI-KANI, HEJAZI COMMENT ON TRIP TO INDIA

GF220545 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] The Iranian delegation returned to Tehran from India today. The delegation was led by Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani, and it explained the goals of the Iranian revolution on the third anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

Describing the results of his visit to India, Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani said: The visit was a positive step to explain the facts of the Iranian revolution to the Indians. He added: We found that millions of Indians are in solidarity with the Islamic revolution, led by Imam Khomeyni.

Meanwhile, Fakhreddin Hejazi, a member of the Iranian delegation, said: We closely studied the issue of exporting the Islamic revolution to India. This revolution is not imported by money, power or intervention in the affairs of other countries. Rather, it is a fact that becomes instilled in the hearts of the people. The Indian Muslims -- who were subjected to British colonialism for a long period of time -- today find in the Islamic revolution hope for strengthening Muslim unity.

'LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING' SIGNED WITH CSSR

LD221750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that following the talks today between a Czechoslovak economic delegation and officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tehran, the two countries signed a letter of understanding.

According to the letter of understanding, Czechoslovakia will double its oil purchase from Iran beginning 21 March. Czechoslovakia will buy 500,000 tons of oil from Iran. In return, our country will import from Czechoslovakia a considerable amount of its industrial needs which are stated in the plan and the budget.

Dr Mohammad Taqi Banki, minister of state in charge of the Plan and Budget Organization, who signed the letter of understanding on behalf of our country, talked to a Central News Unit correspondent. He referred to the problems created by our dependence on the West for raw materials for our industries and pointed to the slogan "Neither East nor West, but the Islamic Republic." The minister said: We would like to be able to supply the raw material needed for our industries, but until that day we will use different sources to meet our needs.

The minister added: During the visit of the Czechoslovak delegation to Tehran, apart from the issue of oil sales to Czechoslovakia, the country's industrial needs as predicted in our economic programs were also discussed. Therefore, according to the agreements, Czechoslovakia will increase its oil purchases from Iran to double our previous sales and in addition will buy other goods from us too. In return, according to the agreements, we will buy a part of the material needed by the Ministries of Energy, Industries, Mines and Metals and Agriculture and Rural Development from Czechoslovakia through the sales department of the Ministry of Commerce.

About the price of oil to be sold to Czechoslovakia, the minister said: In these negotiations there was no need to discuss oil prices since we will sell our oil to Czechoslovakia at the same rate as we sell it to other countries. He added: This agreement will be in effect for 1 year.

The Czechoslovak economic delegation head, who signed the letter of understanding on behalf of his country, told reporters: The agreements made in Tehran delineate the areas for future cooperation. This shows that Czechoslovakia has many potential areas for cooperation with Iran. These areas indicate the products we can buy from your country in the future. About Czechoslovak purchases from Iran, he said: Your country is a known exporter of crude oil. We have agreed on the amount of crude oil we are going to buy from you. In addition to that, Czechoslovakia is interested in buying other goods such as cotton, chrome ore, dried fruits and other Iranian products.

According to the same report, following the talks between Iran and Czechoslovakia and preparing the grounds for the implementation of this letter of understanding, Iran [as heard] has accepted an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia in the near future.

Our correspondent reports that at the end of the economic talks between Iran and Czechoslovakia, the Czechoslovak delegation left Tehran this morning.

JAPANESE OFFICIALS ARRIVE FOR TALKS ON PROJECT

LD221628 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the Japanese partners of the Iranian-Japanese Petrochemical Complex arrived in Tehran yesterday to hold their third round of discussions with the National Iranian Oil Company. The spokesman for the Ministry of Petroleum announced that if these negotiations are conclusive, work will be resumed on the petrochemical plant in Bandar-e Imam Khomeyni, which was 82-percent completed before the beginning of the imposed war.

According to this report, the Japanese delegation will start its round of official negotiations with its Iranian partners, headed by the deputy petroleum minister in charge of petrochemical affairs, on Wednesday. At the request of the Japanese side, these negotiations will cover five points: an economic review of the project; an assessment of the materials needed; problems of finance and capital; methods of repayment of loans and interest; and problems facing the contractors. The deputy petroleum minister in charge of petrochemical affairs announced Iran's stance with regard to the points on the agenda and expressed the hope that the Japanese side will begin this new round of talks with Iranian officials in a positive manner and set out to solve the existing problems amicably.

ARCHBISHOP CAPUCCI ARRIVES IN TEHRAN 21 FEB

LD212238 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 21 Feb 82

[Text] Archibishop Capucci arrived in Tehran today and, in an interview with a correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran held at Mehrabad Airport, said: We consider the Iranian nation as our brother and I have come here to meet with my Iranian brothers.

Visit With Iraqi Prisoners

LD221754 Tehran IRNA in English 1559 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 22 Feb (IRNA) -- Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, currently visiting the Islamic Republic of Iran, met and conferred with the Iraqi POWs in (Heshmatiyyeh) camp and the political-ideological office of the Army of the Islamic Republic gave the bishop information on the conditions of these Iraqi POWs. Archbishop Capucci, after his meeting with these Iraqi POWs, told IRNA that the Iraqi POWs were in good condition.

He said he hoped to visit Iranian POWs in Iraq after his meeting with the International Red Crescent.

TURKEY, KUWAIT TO AID POW FAMILIES TRANSFER

LD221850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] According to IRNA, following the proposal by the Islamic Republic of Iran to the International Red Cross suggesting Turkey and Kuwait as the bases for transferring the families of the prisoners of the imposed war, Turkey, today, officially announced its agreement to the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran via the International Red Cross representative in Tehran.

The secretary general of the Council of Ministers of Kuwait yesterday, at the end of the weekly session of the Council of Ministers, declared Kuwait's preparedness to accept Iran's proposal concerning the use of Kuwaiti land to transfer the families of the POWs.

According to the same report, the Council of Ministers of Kuwait appointed a committee chaired by Deputy Foreign Minister Rashid ar-Rashid to take charge of preparing the plans for the transfer. It should be remembered that Dr [name indistinct] the representative of the international committee of the Red Cross, said regarding the transfer of the families of the POWs: The Iraqi regime has not given a clear answer to the proposal of the Islamic Republic of Iran. This lack of response is unheard of in the history of wars.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 798

LD221750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Communique 798 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Oh Muslim and combative nation of Iran: The brave combatants of Islam, those self-sacrificing and earnest followers of the great Khomeyni, with faith in the ultimate victory against the aggressive enemy, are bravely in battle and with complete superiority are inflicting repeated blows on the shattered body of the feeble army of Saddam, turning the last feeble efforts of the enemy into despondency.

Thanks to the outstanding bravery and audacity of the combatants of Islam and the supporting artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, an enemy offensive started at 1415 yesterday in the Chazzabeh pass was repelled and all enemy operations were neutralized. The aggressors were disgraced once again, suffered heavy losses and casualties and were forced to retreat.

According to the latest reports, at 0600 today the fourth enemy counteroffensive in the Chazzabeh pass region resulted in the defeat of the Saddamists, thanks to the brave and heroic battle of the army and the corpsmen of Islam.

In the Abadan sector, our brave forces, while keeping control over the sectors they were defending, brought the Iraqi positions under fire, killing or wounding more than 30 Iraqis.

Enemy losses in that sector included the destruction of one 106-mm gun, three observation posts and a number of personnel bunkers and light and heavy weapons.

The army of Saddam brought the residential areas of Abadan under artillery fire, as a result of which a number of our compatriots were martyred or wounded.

Our powerful combatants' fire prevented enemy movements on the other side of the Arvand Rud. In the occupied section of Khorramshahr, fire by the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy killed or wounded 15 of the aggressors and destroyed a number of their bunkers. In Dasht-e 'Abbas and 'Eyn Khosh, exchange of fire continued and four enemy bunkers were set on fire and six aggressors were killed. The exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in the Gilan-e Gharb sector, in the Dar Ballut and Tang-e Hajiyan positions, in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab sector and in the Bazi Deraz, Sonboleh and Kaseh Shur positions.

During a battle on 20 February, the Islamic Republic of Iran's Navy presented 13 heroes in the line of those defending Islam and the Islamic homeland to the lord of the ages, may God speed his honorable advent. May their path be eternal.

Further on Iraqi Losses

LD221730 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Feb 82

[Text] According to an IRNA report, yesterday the enemy, by making use of a few battalions of field commandos with the support of a few tank battalions, started an offensive on Chazzabeh pass. But, after 2 hours of hand-to-hand combat, the enemy offensive was repulsed as a result of the sacrifices of the heroic forces of Islam. The attacking forces withdrew after suffering 200 dead and wounded.

Also, at 0600 today, an extensive enemy offensive started in the region which lasted until 0900. This time the enemy again endured a disgraceful defeat after suffering 300 dead, and was forced to withdraw. Enemy losses in these two offensives were about 500 men, as well as 11 tanks and a great deal of ammunition.

Also, according to a Central News Unit report, yesterday the enemy ground forces which were moving in the area came under the intense mortar fire of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps stationed in (Naba'eh) heights, as a result of which a large number of the enemy forces were killed.

MONARCHIST GROUP CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMB

NC230703 Paris AFP in English 0644 GMT 23 Feb 82

[Text] Tehran, 23 Feb (AFP) -- A monarchist group has said it planted the bomb in a garbage truck which went off outside the Vali 'Asr (formerly Eshratabad) barracks, killing 11 people and injuring 61 others early yesterday.

"We planted the bomb," a telephone caller told the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here today, saying he spoke for the Pars monarchist group.

The explosion left a 10-metre-wide crater in the street, six cars were burnt out and the ground was littered with debris.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the accession to the throne of Reza Khan, father of the last shah, on Esfand 3, 1299 (February 22, 1920 in the Iranian calendar).

Several members of the monarchist group were executed at Tehran on January 26. The group draws its title from Iran's former name of Persia. The initials P-A-R-S also stand for "liberating guardians of the imperial regime."

GUARDS CORPS REPORTS RECENT SUCCESSES

LD201040 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0817 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Text] During the past month, more than 100 members of counterrevolutionary minigroups have been arrested in Gilan and Mazandaran by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps. Several maps and addresses of revolutionaries, assassination plans, plans for terrorism and sabotage, documents related to the internal work of the groups and some arms and ammunition were also seized.

During the past week, the Islamic revolution guards in Mashhad, with the cooperation of the 36-million-strong intelligence organization, discovered five safe houses of the hypocrites. In this connection, more than 20 hypocrites were arrested; 2 of them were killed. Nine Kalashnikov submachineguns, several Colts and one RPG-7 together with some ammunition were seized from these dens of corruption.

On 15 February, a clash occurred between a revolution guards patrol unit and some hypocrites. During this clash, one hypocrite was killed and several of them were arrested.

On 16 February, an armed clash occurred between the Revolution Guards Corps and illegal armed bandits in Haji Lanch. During this clash, three counterrevolutionaries were killed and one was wounded. Our brothers returned to their base safely.

NVOI ASSAILS IRANIAN RADIO, TELEVISION

TA200510 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 19 February 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Dismiss the Liberals and Other Dregs From Sensitive Government Organizations"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The true forces of the revolution, while acknowledging the fact that particularly after the expulsion of the traitor and spy Bani-Sadr, certain steps have been taken toward purging the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, believe that the cleansing of this sensitive organization of the compromising liberals and other dregs -- who according to the imam are still there -- is a revolutionary necessity.

Radio and television in every country, including our Islamic Republic, is one of the most sensitive government organizations and is rightly a manifestation of the government's and authorities' policy. It goes without saying that if this very sensitive organization is not cleansed of the presence of some treacherous elements it could deal strong blows to the gains of our revolution and Islamic Republic.

Qotbzadeh -- This U.S. spy -- during his tenure of office at the Islamic Republic's radio and television delivered blows, as much as he could, to the revolution and its gains and to the imam's popular and anti-imperialist line. This identified agent of the great satan transformed the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran into a tool for diverting the just struggles of the devoted and self-sacrificing Iranian people against the great Satan -- the sole principle enemy of the Iranian revolution. In order to promote this treacherous goal he resorted to various ploys and ruses, one of which was raising the name of the Soviet Union, without any proof and basis at that.

The traitor and spy Bani-Sadr, also, during his term of presidency knocked on any door in order to gain control of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Although this U.S. spy did not attain his wish as he had wanted, it is no secret to anyone that he succeeded in transferring many of his pawns into this sensitive organization. Should you closely study some of the programs of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran you will immediately see the line of the compromising liberals and the American Maoists who go to great lengths and resort to ploys and ruses in order to save the aggressor America.

In this context, one cannot but mention the television program "The Other Side of the News." The producers of this program, by resorting to distortion and concoction, mostly engage in raising the Maoist term "the two superpowers." The aim of putting forward this term, too, is nothing more than raising the name of the Soviet Union, and then mudslinging against this real friend and supporter of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and identifying it as the alleged principle enemy of the world and the Islamic Republic.

Struggle against the great Satan -- in accordance with Imam Khomeyni's recommendation and guideline -- is the duty of all the revolution's organs and institutions and of each and every member of the Iranian nation. But let us see what program the television show "The Other Side of the News" presented precisely on the day when world-devouring America, Britain and Oman conducted military maneuvers close to our homeland's territorial waters. Although it may be surprising, it is an undeniable fact that the producers of this program, without making the slightest reference to the maneuver of the United States and its allies -- in other words, the plot of the great Satan against the Iranian revolution and the region's liberation and anti-imperialist movements -- devoted the program exclusively to Argentina and Ethiopia. In the section pertaining to Argentina, while shifting responsibility for all the crimes of world-devouring America on the Argentinian generals -- thus exonerating the United States politically -- they led the discussions to the economic domination of the so-called "superpowers" and immediately mentioned the so-called Russians, and then strive to impress upon the people that allegedly the plunderer of Argentina is not the United States but the Soviet Union.

Then, in the section pertaining to Ethiopia, the producers of this program, after raising the entirely false and baseless claim that allegedly the Ethiopian Government was founded with Soviet assistance they claimed that allegedly the Ethiopian regime did not provide anything for the Ethiopian people except death and misery. In this program whatever insults existed were hurled at revolutionary Ethiopia -- a country that has always supported the Iranian revolution and which also recently concluded a treaty of friendship with our friendly and fraternal country, Libya.

The producers of "The Other Side of the News," at the end of the program also, without any logical connection and due to ill will, came to the conclusion that allegedly all crimes and retributions are committed by the Soviet Union. We, in particular, for this reason chose the 7 December program of "The Other side of the News" as an example because on such a day its producers cannot present any reason at all to justify their action as to why instead of exposing the crimes of the aggressor America, particularly the goal of holding the Bright Star military maneuver, they again cowardly engaged in negating world-devouring America by raising the name of the Soviet Union.

In this context, one cannot but recall the extremely valuable and meaningful remarks by Imam Khomeyni, who said: They raise the name of the Soviet Union in order that America will be negated. The line is that the issue of "Death to America" will be negated.

Are such acts in keeping with dignty of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran? Without doubt the answer to this question cannot be positive.

NVOI SCORES CONTINUED CLOSURE OF UNIVERSITIES

TA221343 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 20 Feb 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The People Demand That Universities and Institutions of Higher Learning Be Opened as Soon as Possible"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Despite Imam Khomeyni's repeated recommendations and guidelines regarding the necessity of immediately opening universities, the country's institutions of higher learning are still closed. Imam Khomeyni has repeatedly reminded members of the Cultural Revolution Council that if they expect to make fundamental changes in university studies before opening the universities this task will take more than 20 years, and universities cannot be closed for such a period.

The imam of the nation has repeatedly said that following the opening of universities the Revolution Council can easily carry out the required reforms. However, unfortunately, so far there has been no sign of the opening of the country's institutions of higher learning.

The eminent jurisconsult, Ayatollah Montazeri, while repeatedly requesting the opening of the country's institutes of higher learning, has openly said that continuation of the closure of the universities will be disastrous. Nevertheless, the universities are still closed, and this extremely correct and appropriate warning by the eminent jurisconsult, Ayatollah Montazeri, has not inconvenienced members of the Cultural Revolution Council even one bit. If the situation goes on like this the closure of the universities will certainly continue and will confront the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran with very serious problems and, according to Ayatollah Montazeri, with a major disaster.

Nearly 20 months have passed since the closure of the universities, and the damage suffered by the revolution and the Islamic Republic of Iran from the 20-month closure of the universities is extremely unbearable. There is no official or government figure who has not talked about the undisputed need of the country for committed specialists and experts. Yet it seems that no one is concerned about this vital matter. Officials of the Cultural Revolution Council and authorities of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education are not only not taking any new step toward opening institutions of higher learning, but even in connection with last-year medical students who had started their activity lately, they embarked on certain measures that are not at all in keeping with the dignity of the nation's popular and anti-imperialist revolution and the dignity of the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to shocking reports that have even been published in some of our country's newspapers, they have expelled a number of medical students from the College of Medicine on the pretext of being members of the Tudeh or the majority, whereas not more than a few months had remained until the graduation of some of these students. Had these students continued their studies, a few months later they would have set foot into our society and would have alleviated some of the country's medical and health problems.

The true forces of the revolution and our homeland's millions-strong masses are justly asking: When will Imam Khomeyni's recommendation then be implemented? The response to this question cannot be other than this: If Iran's Islamic Majlis and the revolutionary authorities do not take measures to carry out Imam Khomeyni's order regarding the immediate opening of the universities, and if the fate of universities and institutions of higher learning remains in the hands of the current members of the cultural revolution headquarters, the opening of the country's universities and institutions of higher learning will not take place in the near future.

We have repeatedly stated and now repeat again that there are certain individuals in the country's sensitive organizations, including the country's education department and institutions related to the cultural revolution, who by refusing to implement the demand of the imam of the nation regarding the immediate opening of the country's universities, and while dealing blows to our revolutionary homeland, actually aid in promoting the aims of the great Satan and its Iranian dregs. On the pretext of struggle against Westernization in the country's universities and institutions of higher learning, which is an essential and vital matter, they in fact push many of our students into the lap of imperialist countries and into the trap of Western culture. It is in view of these bitter and unpleasant facts that our homeland's people and the true forces of the revolution cannot but be doubtful of the good will of the above-mentioned individuals.

The continued closure of the universities, more than this, is neither in the interest of the Islamic authorities nor in the interest of our society. The people and the true forces of the revolution demand the immediate opening of all the country's universities and institutions of higher learning. The Islamic authorities, by identifying the opponents of opening the universities and by naming those who in any way are raising obstacles on the path of opening the country's institutions of higher learning, should engage as soon as possible in resolving this great problem of our society.